

Meeting Date: May 16-18, 2007

Agenda Item No. 19

**Agenda Item: Snake River Spring/Summer
Chinook Salmon Run Update.**

Bureau Chief Approval: _____

Prepared by: Sharon W. Kiefer

Background:

The return of Snake River spring and summer Chinook to Idaho is underway. The spring Chinook salmon season is expected to have started prior to this Commission meeting. Staff will update the Commission about the status of the spring and summer Chinook run and provide information about the ongoing spring Chinook fishery.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

No policy issues, no statutory authority required for update.

Public Involvement Process:

None.

Staff Recommendation:

Continue to track the spring and summer Chinook run and assess 1) harvestable surplus opportunity for hatchery fish based on updated runsize forecast and 2) incidental take allowance of naturally produced fish based on updated runsize forecast. Make future salmon season recommendations as warranted by biological information.

Justification:

Inseason runsize update is needed to advise the Commission of run progress for future decision-making and to inform Commission about progress of existing spring Chinook season.